

Attorney Docket No. 15240.096

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Title: METHODS OF GENE SILENCING  
USING INVERTED REPEAT  
SEQUENCES

Inventor: Gutterson, et al.

Serial No.: 09/924,197

Filing Date: August 7, 2001

Confirmation No.: 2170

Examiner: Lacourciere, Karen A.

Art Unit: 1635

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicant hereby petitions under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for a five-month extension of time to respond to the Office Action dated October 8, 2003, thereby extending the response period to April 8, 2004. A check to pay the required fee is enclosed.

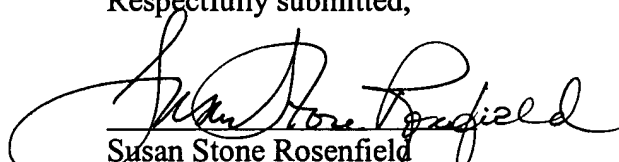
Dated: April 8, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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Date of Deposit 4-8-04

I hereby certify that this paper and all documents and any fee referred to herein are being deposited on the date indicated above with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, postage prepaid and addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
Louis A. Lofredo, Legal Assistant  
1532180.1/15240.096

4-8-04  
Date of Signature